A&E

***Start of Semester Playlist***

Rizzoli ’24 curates a playlist to get you in the groove of the semester. **page 10**

NEWS

***A future without Glenview***

Stroup ’26 discusses the College’s vision for Glenview’s removal from the campus. **page 5**

SPORTS

***Fall Sports Roundup***

Lewis ’24 provides an overview of the latest in Hamilton sports. **page 12**

The Spectator

Thursday, September 21, 2023

Volume LXVI
Number III

*Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends*

# New parking lot planned for Summer 2024

**by Erin Delaney ’26**
*STAFF WRITER*

Hamilton students can look forward to the installation of a new parking lot on campus; it just might not be here any time soon. “A new parking lot is absolutely in the master plan for the campus…many years in the future,” said Frank Coots, Director of Campus Safety. Coots told *The Spectator* that he hopes the school will be able to expand parking in the summer of 2024.

Parking has become a source of frustration and inconvenience for a large number of Hamilton students. As finding an open parking spot in a student lot has seemingly become a rarity, the “Park Anywhere” raffle last week prompted enthusiasm in the student body. The third annual raffle organized by Student Transportation allows the winning student to park almost anywhere on campus without getting a parking ticket for one semester. All proceeds were donated to On Point for College, a non-profit organization that helps first-generation students gain access to a college education.

Students seem overwhelmingly concerned about the parking situation. Alex House ’26 stated that he believes “parking is one of the biggest problems that students face on a day-to-day basis here at Hamilton” and that “because of the school’s isolation, having a car is almost necessary, and when there aren’t enough spots for people, that causes students to get frustrated.”

Maggie Condon ’26 reported often being late to class because she can’t find a parking spot after returning to campus from physical therapy appointments. Multiple students expressed a fear of leaving campus or taking their car out past 4 p.m. because they may lose their spot.

Ticketing is also a topic of annoyance for many students, as some commented on the fact that parking tickets are “being issued at the earliest hours of the day” and “bringing the school upwards of $50 per parking ticket.” A senior admitted to receiving 15 parking tickets last fall.

Some might attribute the parking shortage to increasing numbers of cars as the number of students at Hamilton grows. But in reality, the number of vehicles, at least registered ones, is roughly stable, says Coots. However, he noted that “there’s a couple of things that come into play that [he doesn’t] really have any control over.” Coots explained that “[students with unregistered vehicles] try to game the system because if I don’t know who they are and they have their vehicle, then even if I write a ticket, they’re not going to get charged.” Even though he does not think the number of students with unregistered vehicles is large, every car that adds to the number of cars on campus affects overall parking availability.

Furthermore, the installation of Glenview in 2020 took away around 60 parking spots from Root Student Lot, one of only three authorized student lots on the dark side of campus: Root Lot, Major/Macintosh/Minor Lot and half of the parking lot near Babbitt Pavillion. “There’s no question about it…this affects the availability for students,” Coots said. Students parking in unauthorized lots such as faculty and staff lots has been the main cause of ticketing. Faculty and staff call and email Coots regularly to ask why students are parking in their lot. “My goal is not to write a bunch of tickets because it doesn’t serve any purpose other than being a deterrent,” Coots said. “When it comes down to it, it’s the education and the enforcement of those policies. I’d rather not write tickets, but sometimes I have to.”

Campus safety has not begun to tow vehicles yet, but Coots reports that it will be occurring soon. If the student’s vehicle is registered, it gets towed to a location in North Lot. The cost of the tow will be added to their student bill. If a student’s vehicle is unregistered, then it gets towed off campus and they have to pay for it directly through the tow agency in Clinton.

Coots believes there is still plenty of parking at Hamilton, even though he acknowledges that not all of it is convenient, especially

PHOTO COURTESY OF VESTA MODULAR

**Glenview removes 60 spots from Root Lot.**

for those living on the south side of campus. “You’ll always find a spot in North Lot,” he said. “It doesn’t matter time of day, day of week, there’s always going to be ample parking there. But if you’re rushing, you don’t want to have to walk 20 minutes from your car to your classroom that might be in KJ or KTSA.” Coots recommends giving yourself as much time as possible if you are going to be searching for a parking spot. Additionally, he points out that that parking never runs out in the gravel parking lots directly across from the baseball and softball fields.

The assessment of parking needs across campus has reinforced the fact that Hamilton is at its core, a pedestrian campus. “The College is made to walk,” Coots explained, “Yes, it can be a bit time consuming, especially when the weather is a little bit inclement or you're in a rush. Yes, it is difficult, I will not argue that point. But it is a pedestrian campus and I try to encourage people to walk wherever they can walk.”

To alleviate parking stress, Student Transportation has set up Jitney shuttles on weekday mornings and evenings to take students anywhere on campus so they do not have to use their vehicles. Frank Coots said he appreciates students’ patience when it comes to parking. “It’s never going to be perfect,” he admitted. He joked about sounding like a broken record as he emphasized for the final time, “I just ask that students park in a student lot.”

September 21, 2023

# Euphoria returns to Hamilton campus, serving coffee and offering lower prices

**by Nicole Greenberg '25**
*NEWS EDITOR*

PHOTO COURTESY OF NICOLE GREENBERG '25

**Euphoria opened up in Sadove Student Center with a focus on coffee, not just smoothies.**

PHOTO COURTESY OF EUPHORIA COFFEE'S FACEBOOK PAGE

**Sister-duo Rebecca Palmer (left) and Andrea Crissey (right) own Euphoria Coffee.**

Euphoria Coffee opened its doors to the Hamilton community on Monday, Sept. 4. The cafe, located in Sadove, serves "quality coffee products, all natural smoothies, bubble teas and delicious food options," according to its Facebook page.

This is not the first time Euphoria provided the campus community with morning coffees or afternoon lunches. Hamilton students, faculty and staff who were on the Hill prior to August 2021 might remember Euphoria Smoothies—a cafe with the same name and same owners as today's Euphoria that served Hamilton for 10 years.

The original cafe closed during COVID when different factors, like new job opportunities, led the family to "take some time away" from Hamilton, co-owner Andrea Crissey shared in an interview. In its absence, the Sadove storefront housed a third FoJo Beans location during the 2022-2023 academic year and The Toast during the 2021-2022 academic year.

Crissey and Rebecca Palmer, the sister-duo who own Euphoria, received a call this summer from Lucy Burke to re-open their establishment on the Hamilton campus, and several students seem happy about Euphoria's return to the Hill.

"My COVID freshman year, Euphoria was a great food option outside of the dining halls and I was very upset to see it go. Now that Euphoria is back, I especially enjoy the to-go options on the days I am too busy to sit down in the dining halls. I am not a coffee drinker, but I really enjoy their smoothies!" said Catherine Vogt '24.

"It's exciting to see Hamilton bring something back that students cared so deeply about," said Lane Barsh '25.

The new Euphoria is shifting to a coffee-focused business model from the original smoothie-centric establishment. In terms of expanding, "we have plans of having our own roastery so we wanted to branch away from just being focused on just smoothies," co-owner Andrea Crissey said.

Students looking for coffee on campus will now have another option in addition to FoJo Beans, a cafe and roastery with locations in the Science Center, beneath McEwen dining hall and a flagship location near Colgate University in Hamilton, NY.

The two coffee options seem to function at different price points. One 16 oz. iced coffee at Euphoria runs about $2.53, while a 12 oz. iced coffee at FoJo is $3.50.

"Our goal is to keep [prices] as reasonable as possible," Euphoria's Crissey said. "We know the struggles of going to school, having a budget to spend and not wanting to really go beyond what you're able to do. So we want to be considerate of that and try and keep our pricing as reasonable as possible."

"The prices are very low, and that makes me happy," Mad Bartlett '25 said.

FoJo Beans co-owner Daniel Joseph said Euphoria's lower prices are not troubling. "I'm not concerned about it. You know, we all have our different audiences there. I believe there's room for everyone," he said.

Joseph suggested pricing is a topic of consideration for students when asked about common feedback left in the FoJo suggestion box, but prices likely will not decrease. He said FoJo relies heavily on feedback from the campus community, and tries to implement suggestions when possible, but "there were some things that didn't make sense" to change. "Everyone wants to have a massive enormous meal for $1.99. But that's not something that we can provide and still stay in business," he continued.

Both coffee options, however, keep student interests in mind. Euphoria is focused on "being in tune with what the trends [are] and what you guys as students are looking for," Crissey said. "We get a lot of feedback from the students and the professors. And if we mess up, we know about it, and that's really important. And when we succeed, we want to know about it too," FoJo's Joseph said.

# Green to Go Containers program launches

**by Kristina Meyers '27**
*NEWS CONTRIBUTOR*

Hamilton's Sustainability Office partnered with Parkhurst Dining services to launch the new Green to Go Containers initiative this semester. Originally launched on campus before COVID, (and something Colgate has done for years), this newly revamped program is coming back stronger than ever.

A Green to Go Container is a plastic tupperware box that can be redeemed with an arboretum tag. These containers give students the freedom to get a meal on the go or save for later. Students might find this option more enticing as classes pick up and schedules become more packed with extracurricular activities. These new containers also replace disposable to-go containers to help with Hamilton College's sustainability efforts.

This program faces many challenges as it gets started. In the previous attempt, labor shortages made it impossible for dining hall workers to keep up with the influx of containers. Students also had no accountability for the containers, leading to many going missing or unused. This time around, students have to actively opt into the program and learn how it works in order to receive a tag that is redeemable for a container. According to Sara Soika, Hamilton's Environmental Health and Safety Specialist, over 600 students have chosen to participate in the program so far.

However, much to the dismay of students, china plates are no longer allowed to leave the dining hall. Soika claims there is a reason for this. She mentioned, "It is hard for [Parkhurst] to know if a student is actually taking the food to the patio." This puts Pankhurst on the line if a student were to keep a plate, drop a plate or even throw one out. The company would have to pay to replace the plate, driving up meal plan costs—something no student wants. It also puts Parkhurst employees in the difficult position of confronting students who attempt to leave the dining hall with plates, making student-employee relations unnecessarily negative. "One student can say it's just one plate, but if every student says it's just one plate, that is 1,800 plates that just left at lunchtime," Soika stated.

For those that still have plates in their rooms, returning them to the dining hall (even though you have to embrace the walk of shame) is essential to avoid having those plates counted as a loss. Leaving those plates in dorm hallways or elsewhere puts the burden of returning them on someone who is not responsible for them.

With the addition of Green to Go Containers to the campus dining halls, Hamilton is making an investment on the health and wellbeing of its students. What are some of the ways that students can help Hamilton be more sustainable?

Perhaps the most simple, yet the most important, is not commingling waste containers, as stressed by Brian Hansen, the Director of Environmental Protection Safety and Sustainability. "We have this progressive sustainability stance and every one of our trash containers are full of all these single-use clamshells," Hansen said.

Students can have an active role in reducing campus waste by limiting the usage of paper cups for hot beverages or ice cream in the dining hall. These single-use cups are currently the only product inside the dining hall besides napkins that cannot be reused. By using a personal thermos or mug in the dining hall, it is possible to offset some of the waste that is being generated by these cups. Even if it is less convenient to wash your own thermos, it can help reduce the amount of waste ending up in landfills. Depending on the results of the Green to Go program, there is possibility for expanding the reaches into reusable mugs as the Sustainabiltity Office did in 2011.

There is so much that is on the horizon for Hamilton students that would allow them to become involved in the College's many environmental initiatives and help contribute to a greener, healthier planet. The programs that are put in place only work if students participate in them, meaning each person here on campus plays a big part in Hamilton's now greener future.

## Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to respect discretion, *The Spectator* and Campus Safety have not disclosed the idenities of the students involved in these reports.

**Thurs., Sept. 14**

9:44 a.m. Area Check—KTSA Parking Lot

12:58 p.m. Parking Complaint—KTSA Parking Lot

5:53 p.m. Assist—Blood Fitness Center

7:41 p.m. Medical Emergency—Root Residence Hall

11:20 p.m. Noise Complaint—Babbit Residence Hall

11:48 p.m. Noise Complaint—Babbit Residence Hall

**Fri., Sept. 15**

3:38 a.m. Fire Alarm—Sadove Student Center

3:56 a.m. Fire Alarm—Sadove Student Center

9:26 a.m. Medical Emergency—On Campus

11:04 a.m. Area Check—Martin's Way

4:09 p.m. Medical Emergency—Blood Fitness Center

6:13 p.m. Fire Alarm—Dunham Residence Hall

11:44 p.m. Noise Complaint—Milbank Residence Hall

**Sat., Sept. 16**

5:44 a.m. Fire Alarm—Ferguson House

10:16 a.m. Medical Emergency—Burke Library

3:15 p.m. Medical Emergency—Skenandoa Residence Hall

4:45 p.m. Parking Complaint—95 College Hill Road

6:04 p.m. Motorist Assist—North Parking Lot

8:30 p.m. Complaint—Babbitt Pavilion

8:56 p.m. Area Check—Green Waste

9:41 p.m. Noise Complaint—Griffin Road Apartments

10:18 p.m. Noise Complaint—Griffin Road Apartments

11:00 p.m. Medical Emergency—Campus Safety Building

**Sun., Sept. 17**

12:43 a.m. Assist—Beinecke Village: Howard Diner

1:29 a.m. Noise Complaint—South Residence Hall

1:45 a.m. Medical Emergency—Dunham Residence Hall

2:16 a.m. Noise Complaint—South Residence Hall

Dear Hamilton Community,

We hope everyone is having a lovely fifth week of classes and is getting prepared for the incoming cooler weather. If the recent campus switch from shorts to jeans is inspiring you to dive head-first into your cozy autumnal main character fantasy, make sure to check out Lily's "Start of Semester" playlist on page 10—Alex recommends giving Spoon's "The Underdog" an extra listen on your eventual meanders across Martin's Way. This week's edition of *The Spectator* also brings you information on a potential new parking lot coming to campus, interviews with the managers of Fojo Beans and Euphoria Coffee about prices and some additional context on Parkhurst Dining's new Green to Go Containers program.

Campus has lots of exciting events bubbling up in the coming weeks that are sure to educate and entertain. If you are into visual and performing arts, make sure to check out the Wellin's latest free-for-students exhibition, "Rhona Bitner: Resound." For those more interested in analyzing the intricacies of the cinema, mark your calendars for F.I.L.M.'s upcoming showing of Paul Miller's Searching for Timbuctoo (2021) and stick around until the end of the screening to chat with Miller himself! If you have more of a green thumb, go to Robin Wall Kimmer's on-campus lecture brought to you by the James S. Plant Distinguished Scientist Lecture Series next Monday, Sept. 25. And of course, be on the lookout for an email announcing a new performer headlining CAB's Fall Concert.

In more *Spec* related news, keep your eyes peeled for more information about us shepherding your campus news and entertainment from the physical page to your Spotify downloads with podcasts coming your way as soon as next week! Looking for love? Take your chances with *The Spectator*'s official matchmaker by emailing featspec@hamilton.edu to find your *Spec*-crossed lover and add your name to the famed ranks of our Bachelors and Bachelorettes. We are in the market (pun is intended) for a Marketing Director—email spec@hamilton.edu if you're interested in joining the team!

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*The Spectator*

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*Celebrating 157 years,*
we *were first published as* The Hamilton Campus *in 1866.*

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*The Spectator's* Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

*The Spectator* has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

## About Us

*The Hamilton College* Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. For more information e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

# Administration expects Glenview-less future

**by Meg Stroup '26**
*NEWS CONTRIBUTOR*

The administration has no plan to add more permanent housing, but they see a future without Glenview dorms at Hamilton.

Tucked in the very upper corner of the Hill, and sandwiched between the Glen and parking lot, lies Glenview. Glenview has truly made a name for itself on campus, renowned for its less-than-ideal size and lack of aesthetic appeal. However, it is praised for its access to free laundry and highly functional air conditioning. Glenview was built during the pandemic to permit more students to safely social distance while following state protocol, however, it has remained functional as a freshman dorm in the three years since.

After over-enrollment with the Class of 2025, leading to an increase in "forced doubles," many students are wondering whether or not there is a plan for a more permanent housing solution. The current answer is no; the administration is not planning to add another dorm. "The Class of 2025 outpaced our predicted enrollment numbers, which shows Hamilton is a great place to be. While this caused shortages in our housing that required keeping Glenview longer than initially planned, it is not the goal to maintain these levels of enrollment in the long term," said Tanith Sherman, Assistant Dean of Students for Community Living.

Sherman has played a large role in organizing housing at Hamilton. She has a wide range of responsibilities, including putting first-year students into housing, housing selection more generally, housing during breaks, the opening and closing of residence halls and dealing with damage in buildings. With the help of Travis Hill, Associate Dean of Students for Student Engagement, Sherman provided a thorough description of the timeline between Glenview's construction and plans for the future.

Sherman explained that Glenview was built to accommodate students during COVID. "For the 2020-2021 academic year, we were unable to use any of our triple rooms as triples, or any of our quads without private bathrooms as quads. We were only permitted to put two students in each of those spaces," said Sherman. She went on to speak about the influx of students, "In addition, students were not going abroad as they normally would, resulting in more students on campus. To be sure we had enough beds for all of our students we made many changes in our housing, including adding the Glenview buildings."

As the Hamilton community's growth has been reflected in its increasing enrollment numbers, this has created a need for more housing. "Our initial permit to build them was for three years. We anticipate that we are going to use them through the 24-25 academic year. We have extended the timeline due to increased enrollment when the Class of 2025 was even more excited to join Hamilton than we predicted," Sherman explained. This surge in admissions can partially be attributed to an increasingly competitive pool of applicants but also a product of students being able to attend school regularly, post-COVID.

Students on the Hill eagerly await housing selection, hoping for a "darkside" suite or "Sken" single. But despite its controversial reputation, Glenview has been essential in accommodating Hamilton students through unprecedented times.

# Club Spotlight: The Anime Club

**by Zoe Regner '26**
*STAFF WRITER*

From a genius that kills with a stroke of a pen to a rubber boy who dreams of becoming the Pirate King, anime challenges the imagination. The medium combines an animated style with often adult themes, whose assorted genres include comedy, drama and romance. Hamilton College's Anime Club seeks to promote this limitless medium, inviting regular and new viewers to watch anime on Saturdays at 4 p.m. "Anime is something everyone should know," Vice President Judit Vagott '26 said. For regular anime watchers, the club introduces them to fellow viewers. Attendees can then discuss the medium through the club's Discord and post-meeting discussions. For those new to anime, meetings will often include an event—such as decorating tote bags—alongside the viewing. Students may come for the event then stay for the anime, Vagott explained.

The Anime Club's kick-off event, "First Boba," was on Sept. 16, where viewers drank boba and watched a romance movie which was well-received by attendees. Beyond this first meeting, President Tyrone Xue '27 plans to offer snacks, arts-and-crafts events and themed anime sessions—for example, when the Fall 2023 anime season debuts, the club will present an anime from this new season. Xue hopes to create an anime podcast and, if the "We're rather broke" budget allows, head to the nearby movie theater for an anime viewing.

Within club meetings, Xue prioritizes a laid-back and fun atmosphere; after all, the president identifies with the comedy genre since his jokes are "funny every once in a while." While Xue has his own list of "God-Tier Anime," his E-board will provide varied genres to account for students' differing preferences. Xue also envisions the club as "Anime and beyond," where the club will promote anime games, V-Tubers, manga and light novels in addition to anime.

For those unsure of attending the club, Vagott responds with: "You really don't know until you've tried something, and then it might become a big part of your life."

PHOTO COURTESY OF ZOE REGNER '26

**The Anime Club provides students the opportunity to watch and discuss various genres of anime through weekly meetings and Discord conversations.**

# Weekly Unsolicited

**by Candidus**
*RESIDENT VOICE OF WISDOM*

The "Weekly Unsolicited" features advice that no one asked for, but everyone needs.

1. Have difficulty getting up in the morning? Raise your blinds the night before. When the sun's searing rays pierce your windows, you will probably get so annoyed that you will either get up to lower the blinds or legitimately wake up and start your day. Either way, you will get moving and have a better chance of not falling back to bed.

2. Please start wearing lip balm and moisturizing your lips (bonus points for exfoliating).

3. If you have tiny white particles on your face—usually found on the sides of your mouth, chin, and nose—do not try to remove them like black heads. They are sebaceous filaments which is mostly made of sebum and dead skin cells. Removing them with pressure as if they are blackheads will only increase irritation and not effectively remove them. Instead, use an oil based cleanser and gently rub it into the areas with sebaceous filaments. I usually use jojoba oil but olive oil works in a pinch. After the filaments are gone, you must use a non-oil based cleanser right after. Always double-cleanse when using oil on your skin; your skin will thank me later.

4. If you are a humanities major, go to every professor's office hours at least once a semester, ideally twice. Go once to introduce yourself and show your interest and enthusiasm for the course, and go another time for a legitimate question. Do this enough times and you will start to build relationships with professors that could write great recommendations for you. Of course, be a genuine person; professors can definitely tell if you are just trying to suck up. Ask your professors about the research they are working on or what outside projects and/or hobbies they participate in. If they just came back from sabbatical, ask about that as well. Basically, there is so much to talk about with a professor that you should not have excuses to never go to office hours. Just be mindful of their time and be aware that other students also need to talk to them.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ZAZZLE

# Hamilton Horoscopes

**by Mikaella Tortusa '25**
*RESIDENT ASTROLOGIST*

The segment is back, offering new insights!

*Jan. 20-Feb. 18: Aquarius*
*Feb. 19-March 20: Pisces*
*March 21-April 19: Aries*
*April 20-May 20: Taurus*
*May 21-June 20: Gemini*
*June 21-July 22: Cancer*
*July 23-Aug. 22: Leo*
*Aug. 23-Sept. 22: Virgo*
*Sept. 23-Oct. 22: Libra*
*Oct.23-Nov. 21: Scorpio*
*Nov. 22-Dec. 21: Sagittarius*
*Dec. 22-Jan. 19: Capricorn*

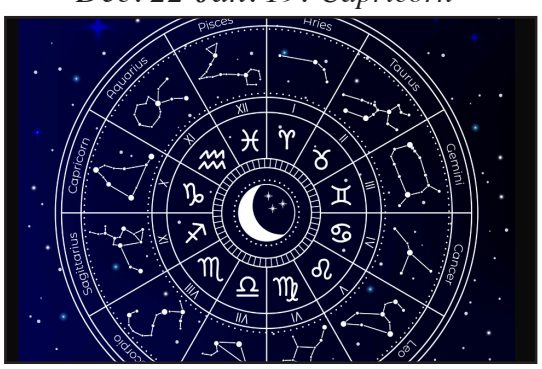



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES

**Look toward this week's horoscopes.**

**Aries**
Today, you need to use logic. Talk to people in well-informed positions before moving ahead with the information. Tread lightly and vigilantly.

**Taurus**
Perhaps you were struck with a bout of inspiration, but you might be ignoring the people who care about you. Put in extra effort to make yourself understood, or you could cause confusion.

**Gemini**
You might intuit some strange and unsettling vibes from a friend. Make it clear that you are available to talk about it, and then let it go.

**Cancer**
Some disconcerting information you receive today might cause you to doubt your future. Wait a few days and then consider what you heard. You will be in a far better frame of mind.

**Leo**
Usually your mind is sharp and centered, but you probably feel like you can not think straight. If there is something you need to do, either make a great effort to focus on the task or get some help.

**Virgo**
You generally tend to be intuitive, but your premonitions are off track. Write them down and verify them later, but do not put any faith in them yet.

**Libra**
You may have a very strange and somewhat disturbing dream about a friend. Do not fear. Chances are it is symbolic, not prophetic.

**Scorpio**
A lack of communication between you and someone close could lead to misunderstandings. If someone misinterprets anything thing you say, explain it more precisely.

**Sagitarius**
You might be so intent on your work that you do not hear what someone says to you. Take the time to listen and pay attention to what someone tells you, however trivial it may seem.

**Capricorn**
If you are presently romantically involved, you may find that you or your partner feels very passionate while the other does not. Compromise.

**Aquarius**
Whatever you are doing will probably seem urgent. Slow down and do not work too quickly. It may take longer, but you will not regret it.

**Pisces**
A strange letter or phone call could come your way today. It may be good news or bad, but do not accept it at face value. Somewhere along the line someone has misinterpreted information.

September 21, 2023

# The perpetual cycle of tyranny within the House Freedom Caucus

**by Gregoire Winston ’26**
*OPINION EDITOR*

The clock is ticking and pressure is mounting for House Speaker Kevin McCarthy. As of Monday Sept. 18, 2023, Congress is barrelling towards a probable government shutdown, which could have devastating consequences for everyday Americans, McCarthy included. On Oct. 1, 2023, hundreds of government agencies could stop operating due to a lack of funding, furloughing thousands of workers across the country. Without a consequent bipartisan solution for the passing of all 12 appropriation bills, Congress’ fate seems set in stone. How could elected American politicians push our nation’s government workers to the edge of the precipice? It comes down to a simple answer: the toxic House Freedom Caucus.

McCarthy’s inability to curtail hardline Republicans towards bipartisan consensus is symptomatic of greater political woes plaguing America. Right-wing politicians are shamelessly ready to prioritize their personal agendas over those of our nation as a whole. From Texas’ Chip Roy to Florida’s Matt Gaetz, without forgetting Georgia’s Marjorie Taylor Greene, House Freedom Caucus members have systematically refused to sit at the negotiation table. Rather, they simply expect their outlandish demands to be met. By ceding to their interests in hopes of keeping his job, McCarthy sets a dangerous precedent in motion: future GOP Speakers will have no say in their party’s political alignments unless they cooperate with the extreme minority. Devoid of real influence over those who elected him, McCarthy is framed as the main culprit in times of impending crises, further weakening his already fragile authority.

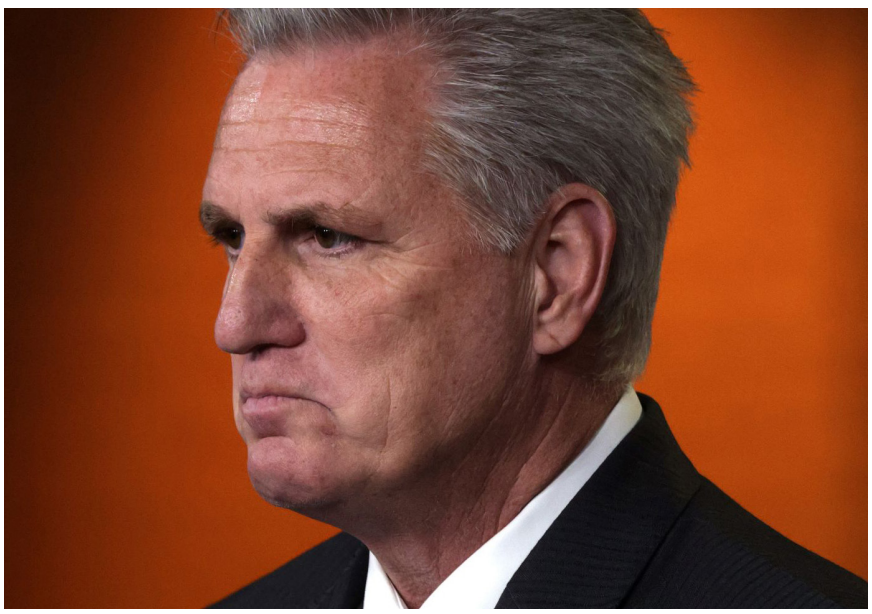


PHOTO COURTESY OF VOX

**Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy attempts to balance bipartisanship and the House Freedom Caucus.**

In the meantime, Freedom Caucus members remain unscathed, further empowered by another successful hostage situation gone in their favor.

Historically speaking, GOP factions imposing outrageous pressure onto House speakers is nothing new. In 2015, then House Speaker John Boehner resigned in the midst of growing fractures within his own party. Following secretive negotiations with former President Obama in hopes of reaching a bipartisan debt ceiling agreement, House Republicans were outraged to have been unaware of these talks. In response, three dozen Freedom Caucus members challenged to push for a non-confidence vote, posing a direct threat to his leadership. Among its many aims, the group was ready to weaponize a government shutdown if Boehner signed on to any pro-Obama policies, including Planned Parenthood and increased funding for social programs. Soon after, Boehner, exasperated by the state of his own party, relinquished his gavel. Once again, the Freedom Caucus scored a new victory in placing their interests over those of the 435 other Congressional members, normalizing the idea that holding all of Congress hostage is nothing more than another tactic in politicians’ legislative playbook.

Today, although the government shutdown seems closer than ever, McCarthy announced the opening of an official impeachment inquiry into President Biden under growing pressure from GOP representatives. Despite launching this bogus investigation, Freedom Caucus members, notably Rep. Gaetz, expressed McCarthy is “out of compliance in [his] role as Speaker of the House,” insinuating his removal from office. Moreover, Rep. Bishop and Rep. Perry, angered by the pace of investigations into the Biden Administration, stated that “it’s time for some leadership change.” In this, Freedom Caucus members attach little importance to the concessions made by McCarthy in their favor. Instead, they continue pushing for chaos within Congress, frame McCarthy as the scapegoat for the nation’s woes and dupe Americans into thinking their hardcore stances are easily attainable.

Looking into the future, America’s 247-year success as a country will only continue if both Republicans and Democrats acknowledge the danger rogue political factions pose within Congress. Eric Burlison, Chip Roy, Jim Jordan and other Freedom Caucus members find no harm in jeopardizing millions of Americans’ lives as long as their wishes are met. American hyper-polarization is something of the present; its existence in our collective future should not be warranted. True to the U.S.’s motto, “E Pluribus, Unum,” future generations of Americans must elect politicians ready to put vested interests aside for the good of our great nation.

PHOTO COURTESY OF POLITICO

**Representative Chip Roy, surrounded by fellow House Freedom Caucus members, addressing the press within Congress.**

September 21, 2023

# What the Quran burnings in Sweden can tell us about freedom of speech

**by Nicolai Tolstoy '27**
*OPINION CONTRIBUTOR*

In Sweden, there is an ongoing debate on whether we should allow the burning of Qurans in public spaces. As a result, it has put the country in a real predicament: it has to walk a fine line between freedom of expression and ensuring the safety of its people. How can this situation act as a tool to understand the impact freedom of expression can have on a country?

Since Easter 2022, Rasmus Paludan, a Danish-Swede, has traveled to cities in Sweden to burn the Quran in public to express his views on Islam. In the following weeks, widespread media attention resulted in more people joining him. Even though many find the act ominous, some argue that it is their right to express their views. For instance, the second biggest political party in Sweden, the Swedish Democrats, agrees that it should be allowed and that Sweden as a whole should not adjust to the Islamic State's values, where free expression is not allowed. This situation has made Sweden, and the rest of the world, aware of the importance freedom of speech holds in citizens minds.

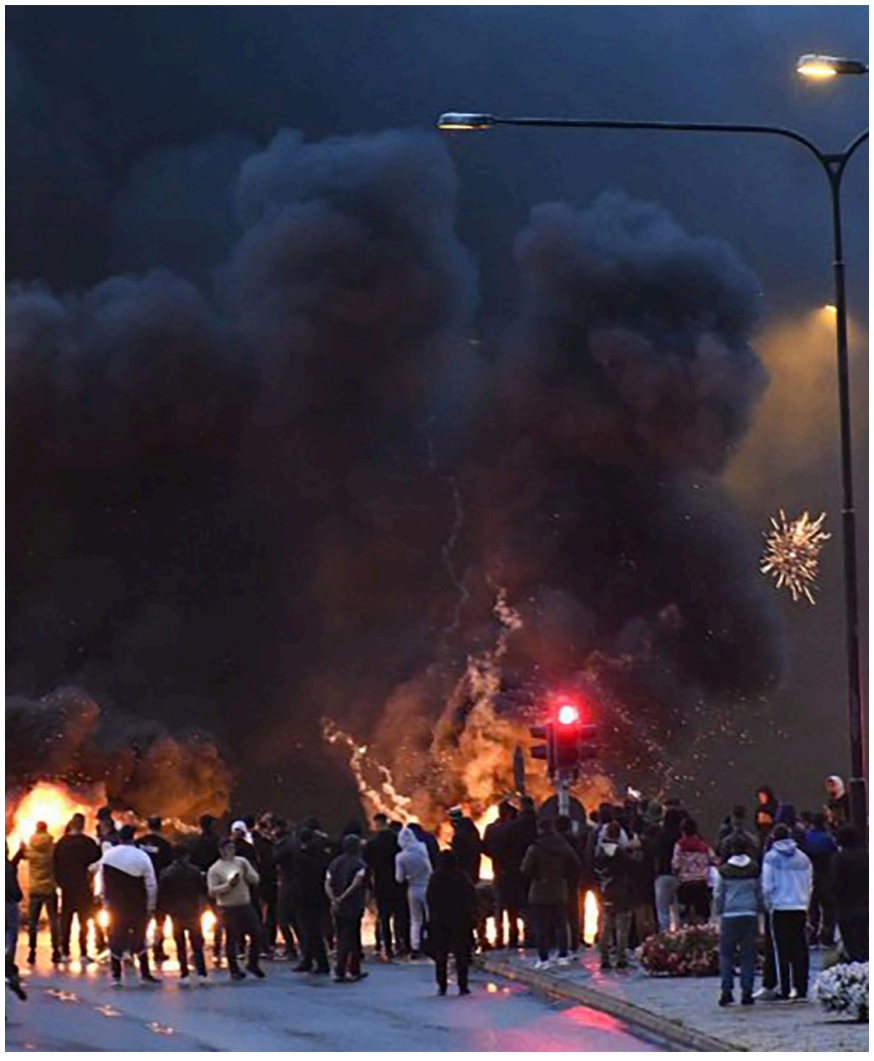


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Protesters in the city of Malmo express their discontent following burning the Quran by far-right Swedish individuals.**

Turkey's President Tayyip Erdogan is still skeptical about Sweden joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and he has used these events as an excuse to continue his line of questioning. This comes after he had agreed to further progress already made by NATO in ratifying Sweden into the transatlantic bond. Furthermore, protestors in Muslim-dominated countries like Iraq have raided the Swedish embassy in their country. Because of this, SÄPO, the equivalent of Sweden's FBI, has recently recommended that people be alert of their surroundings when going out in public, citing threats of terrorist attacks.

This circumstance is complicated for Sweden. On one hand, it has to balance the freedom of expression that has been part of Swedish identity for centuries, but it also can not ignore the violence these issues promulgate. We need to understand that Sweden is in a fragile position. Organized gangs have spiraled out of control and the differences between the suburbs and the inner cities are so drastic that it has led to divisions within Swedish population. As a result of this, Sweden documented 62 deadly shootings in 2022, compared to Denmark's four, Norway's four and Finland's two.

Sweden is facing popular anger. Inflation continues to cut into people's income, and the face an environment where a lot of groups are turning against each other.

When describing Sweden's crisis, it is clear to see how freedom of expression can affect a country. Even though I think we can all agree it is a necessity for a democratic country to function, it is still a topic that requires discussion. Clearly, when seeing the cycle Sweden has gone through, allowing individuals to have full freedom of expression can spark tensions between groups.

The cautionary tale that Sweden presents is that when allowing some people to pour fuel on the fire, things can get out of hand. When you allow people such as Rasmus Paludan to express and loathing for a fraction of your population in public, you can end up in a similar predicament. In the end, people like Paludan are angry at how things are in Sweden's society. From a personal standpoint, I think freedom of expression should be used as a tool to criticize the people in power, the people who should be held responsible for why you might want to burn the Quran. However, what it should not be used for is for the expression of hate towards one another.

PHOTO COURTESY OF POLITICO

**Rasmus Paludan is seen holding a burning Quran outside of the Turkish embassy in early February 2023.**

# Film Review: *They Cloned Tyrone* (2023)

**by Max Bratter '24**
*A&E EDITOR*

The sociology of race is always a tricky subject to touch upon in cinema. Do you talk directly about it, like in Spike Lee's *Do the Right Thing* (1989)? Or, do you talk around it to generalize it to a grander audience, like in Boots Riley's *Sorry to Bother You* (2018)? Debut director Juel Taylor attempts to do a mixture of both in *They Cloned Tyrone* (2023).

In classic archetypal dystopian fashion, the film's opening scenes instill a deceptive sense of normality and routine. Fontaine (John Boyega) is making his daily rounds as a drug dealer: working out with his shiny gold grill flashing as he grunts, driving around one of his young protégés as he recalls his favorite SpongeBob moments, steering his car into a man who disrespects him and then ending his day by confronting Slick Charles (Jamie Foxx) about his debt. You know, a typical day in a life full of trials and tribulations. These presumably cyclical occurrences of events become upended when Fontaine's ways catch up to him in the form of getting "50 Cent"-ed (shot many times). To both the audience's and Fontaine's surprise though, he wakes up the following day and repeats his daily tasks with pressing internal unease. This is only exacerbated when he returns to Charles' motel room, only to be called a "ghost" by the pimp and subsequently receives a conformational postmortem from Yo-Yo (Teyonah Parris), one of Charles' working girls. After searching for clues to this mystery in "Nancy Drew" fashion, the trio uncovers a confidential governmental conspiracy that has been treating their home, the Glen, as a testing grounds for extreme methods of forced societal conformity in order to unite a country that has been so riddled with antagonistic race relations and general patriotic backsliding.

There is no current shortage of dystopian thrillers in our modern television and film ecosystem, but *They Cloned Tyrone* puts itself aside as one that is much more intellectually critical. The dense subject matter of the perception of a racially binary American society–between privileged White people and oppressed minorities–is not a new fascination, but one that has been rekindled throughout this cinematic effort. Whether it touches on facets of pioneering sociological thought with a blatant reference to the Chicago School's concentric theory of metropolitan areas or it taps into conspiratorial notions of the federal government monitoring our every move, *They Cloned Tyrone* does not lack questions. Similarly, neither do the characters who eventually embark on an insurgency to reveal these secrets to the public.

The creative vision behind *They Cloned Tyrone* only adds to its idiosyncrasies. The crackling celluloid and found-footage-esque nature of the color-grading only emboldens the surrealism revolving around these very real themes of American society. More than this though, the film embraces 20th-century Blaxploitation tropes, such as in the wardrobe or score, in coalescence with modern mentions of Blockchain and social media. The film understands that time is fickle, but that there's a modern effort to revert back to the days of lopsided empowerment among, and by, the elite. Speaking of time as guidance for this film, *They Cloned Tyrone* ensures that it pays homage to its creative predecessors in the form of direct references to *Clockwork Orange* (1971), among other clear storyboarding inspirations like *Get Out* (2017) and David Fincher's thriller aesthetic.

Understanding the film's stylistic basis is essential to providing it with the benefit of the doubt for some of its shortcomings in execution, but its more original features are what leaves more to be desired. Foxx and Parris effectively walk the fine line of their flamboyant characters by avoiding the natural tendency to over-act in roles with that much personality, but, ironically, it's Boyega's uncomfortably muted performance that occasionally crosses that boundary. Boyega seems to struggle at times in keeping Fontaine's deep vocal register consistently low, especially in moments of radical emotion, but his history with fight choreography (*Star Wars)* makes him a perpetually enticing watch during moments where tensions boil over.

*They Cloned Tyrone* is an ambitious attempt at social commentary that will forever remain salient. Just like any director's debut film with such intense aspirations, the feat of carrying them out can become inevitably overwhelming. Taylor hit the mark in casting a group that does enough of the heavy-lifting to overshadow the natural technical immaturity that is associated with first-time directors, but when the performances start to falter, so does the film's overall quality.

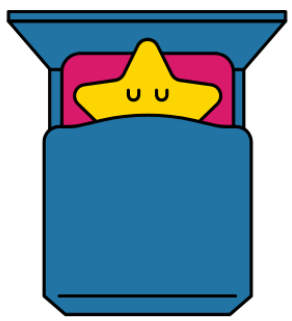
PHOTO COURTESY OF NYTIMES.COM

**John Boyega joins forces with Jamie Foxx and Teyonah Parris.**

# MY START OF SEMESTER PLAYLIST

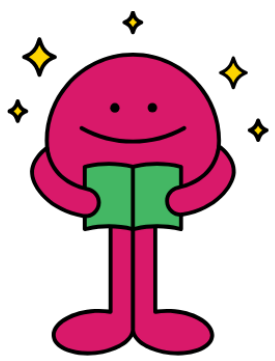
By Lily Rizzoli '24
Managing Editor

**Young Hearts Run Free**
Candi Staton
01:20 - 03:30



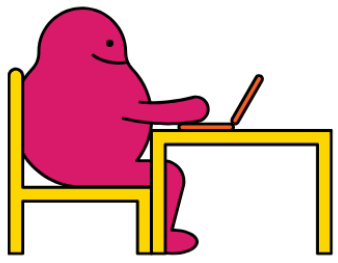
**The Underdog**
Spoon
01:20 - 03:30

**Music Sounds Better with You**
NEIL FRANCES
01:20 - 03:30



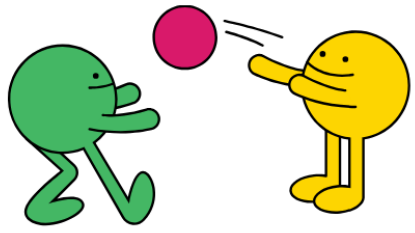
**Float On**
Modest Mouse
01:20 - 03:30

**i**
Kendrick Lamar
01:20 - 03:30



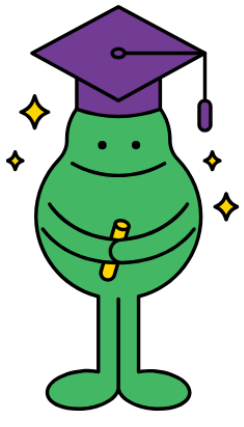
**Let the Beat Build**
Lil Wayne
01:20 - 03:30

**Following the Sun**
SUPER-Hi, NEEKA
01:20 - 03:30



**Waves - Tame Impala Remix**
Miguel, Tame Impala
01:20 - 03:30

**Cobrastyle**
Teddybears
01:20 - 03:30



**Changes**
2PAC, Talent
01:20 - 03:30

Best of luck out there, kid! Don't forget to have fun.

September 21, 2023

# Everyone wants an undisputed heavyweight champion—except Tyson Fury

**by Owen Lewis '24**
*SPORTS EDITOR*

Boxing is a niche sport. Most fights do not capture the imagination of casual fans outside the smallish community of fans. While the biggest fight aficionados know every fighter of note and make pound-for-pound lists (essentially ranking how good fighters are without regard to size), it is typically only one or two who graduate to mainstream recognition. Maybe you have a huge social media following, like Ryan Garcia. Maybe you reliably sell out stadiums, like Saul "Canelo" Alvarez. Maybe you are a human highlight reel.

Due to that final possibility, you might know Tyson Fury.

Fury beat Wladimir Klitschko to win the lineal heavyweight title in 2015, which lifted him to the pinnacle of the division, but that is not why you might know him. No, Fury's claim to fame came three years later, when he fought Deontay Wilder, the hardest puncher in boxing today and possibly the hardest in boxing history. For the better part of 11 rounds, Fury, despite being six-foot-nine and well over 250 pounds, dodged around the ring like a lightweight, slipping Wilder's biggest punches.

Then in the 12th round, Wilder landed a crushing right hand on Fury's chin. As Fury rocked backwards, already beginning to fall to the canvas, Wilder slammed a left hook home. Fury appeared unconscious as he hit the ground. Wilder did a victory dance. But Fury somehow jolted awake at the referee's count of six, then hauled his bulk off the canvas and was up by nine. (If you have not seen this clip, I urge you to seek it out — words fail to do it justice.) From there, incredibly, Fury continued outmaneuvering Wilder for the rest of the fight and finished the stronger of the two.

Fury had to settle for a draw as the judges turned in some puzzling scorecards, but he annihilated Wilder in their rematch and soundly defeated him again in their trilogy bout. Fury still owns the lineal heavyweight title and is undefeated, but his claim to worldwide fame is the instantly-viral clip of him rising from the dead in his first fight with Wilder. It made him a household name. When I briefly talked boxing with *The Spectator*'s very own Mikaella Tortusa '25 last week, the first name she mentioned was Tyson Fury.

Oleksandr Usyk, who currently holds three heavyweight title belts, is not a mainstream star. (Due to boxing's bizarre organizational structure, there can be multiple champions in a division at the same time.) The goal, naturally, is for Usyk and Fury to fight, which would result in a single unified champion in the heavyweight division. When you have one champion in a division, everything becomes infinitely easier. The champion is easier to market to casual fans. Fighters know exactly who they have to take down to become top dog. If Fury and Usyk fight, the winner will be the first undisputed heavyweight champion since Lennox Lewis in 1999.

But Fury seems not to want the fight. Instead of taking on Usyk to unify the belts, he is fighting Francis Ngannou next month, a mixed martial artist with extremely little boxing experience. Ngannou is a massive puncher, so there is a remote chance he could land a Hail Mary blow and drop Fury, but the odds are terrible. Whenever a fighter tries to cross over into another sport, things go badly. Michael Jordan was a mediocre baseball player — in the minor leagues. MMA star Conor McGregor got battered by Floyd Mayweather when McGregor decided to give boxing a try in 2017, even with Mayweather long past his peak. Ngannou is the lowest-risk opponent Fury could take on, with the highest financial windfall.

So Usyk is left to wait. Every now and then, Fury will post an unhinged social media message, taunting Usyk or calling him a "shithouse." (Fury is, you might be surprised to know, an advocate for mental health.) And here's the worst part: despite having a better quality boxing resume than Fury, Usyk's lesser star power means he has fewer alternative fights. So, while Fury messes around with MMA fighters, Usyk has to settle for less lucrative mandatory bouts until — if it even happens at all — Fury deems him a worthy opponent.

It is a frustrating situation. Usyk, who has shown nothing but the intent to challenge himself — he has won most of his honors in the lighter cruiserweight class and made the ambitious leap to heavyweight because there was nothing left for him to accomplish at his natural weight — gets screwed, while Fury's chicanery gets rewarded. Such is the nature of the boxing game.

The irony is that Fury would be a heavy favorite in a fight with Usyk. He is so much bigger than Usyk, and is devastatingly effective at leaning on his opponents to tire them out, that it is hard to imagine Fury being troubled significantly. All the same, Usyk has a better chance at beating Fury than anyone else in the world, and the leading theory is that Fury is scared enough of a blemish on his undefeated record that he doesn't think the fight is worth it.

Boxing fans are left in the lurch along with Usyk. Big fights have limited lifespans; if they are left to marinate for too long, one or both fighters starts to decline and the resulting product is sadly lacking. Countless fights have failed to live up to expectations because they passed their sell-by date. The biggest fight of the 2010s was Mayweather against Manny Pacquiao — boxing fans clamored for it starting in 2009, but it didn't happen until 2015. Though demand was still high, the fight itself fell wildly short of hopes and significantly short of expectations. Fury-Usyk could suffer a similar fate.

PHOTO COURTESY OF AP PHOTO/MARK J. TERRILL

**Tyson Fury lies on the canvas, seemingly unconscious, only to rise moments later.**

# Hamilton Continentals fall sports roundup

**by Owen Lewis '24**
*SPORTS EDITOR*

Fall sports are in full flow! *The Spectator* rounded up some recent results ahead of another busy week of games and competitions.

**Men's Tennis**

Connor Griff '25 won the A-flight men's tennis bracket at the Union College Dutchmen Invitational, defeating fellow Continental Anson Anderson '26 6-3, 6-4 in the final. Griff is undefeated so far this season, with a 7-0 record. Coby Feldman '26 made the semifinals of the A-flight bracket before losing to Anderson, and Ignatio Tran '27 made the semifinals of the B-flight bracket. Partnering with Charlie Sternberg '27, Tran also made the semifinals of the doubles tournament.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HANA DOLAN'25

**Lily Murphy '27 is seen en route to a recent fourth-place finish in a 253-runner field.**

**Women's Cross Country**

Lily Murphy '27 ran six kilometers in 22:09.8, good for fourth place among 253 runners, in the University of Rochester Yellowjacket Invitational on Sept. 16. The performance earned Murphy the New England Small College Athletic Conference Women's Cross Country Performer of the Week. Given that two of the runners who finished ahead of Murphy on Sept. 16 were from a Division I school in Cornell, and the third beat Murphy by just two seconds, the first-year's future looks extremely bright.

**Women's Golf**

The women's golf team scored a runner-up finish out of 11 teams in the George Phinney Classic at Middlebury College on Sept. 16 and 17. Peyton Sichol '26 tied for 4th place overall out of 63 total participants. Sofia Weinstein '24 tied for 10th place. Keira Joshi '27 and Angela Liu '27 also posted strong performances, tying for 14th overall, and Serena Bagga '27 tied for 23rd, which gave the Continentals a bump in the overall standings.

**Men's Soccer**

The men's soccer team soundly defeated the SUNY Polytechnic Wildcats 5-1 on Sept. 19. The Continentals varied their offense, listing five different scorers for their five goals: Ross Eagle '26, Luke Peplowski '25, Luke Ehrenfreund '25, Ravi Travers '24 and Patrick Ferrare '27. The win was the team's first of the season, and they look to add another on Saturday, Sept. 23 against Tufts University.

**Field Hockey**

The field hockey team fell 6-0 to #1-ranked Middlebury on Sept. 16, but beat the University of Rochester 1-0 on Sept. 13. Hannah Dillon '24 scored the lone goal of the game during overtime. With a 3-1 record overall, the team is ranked 15th in the top-25 Division III poll.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

**Men's golf finished 12th out of 22 at Williams.**

**Men's Golf**

At the Williams College Fall Invitational, the men's golf team tied for a 12th-place finish in the 22-team field. Brian Healy '25 tied for 35th of 113 players total, while Tyler Tornoe '25 placed second for the Continentals by tying at 44th place overall.

**Women's Soccer**

The women's soccer team beat the Middlebury Panthers 2-1 on Sept. 17 to remain undefeated at 2-0-2. Erin Rayhill '25 and Daisy Sullivan '26 recorded the Continentals' goals. The shots on goal breakdown was not reflected in the final scoreline, with the Panthers generating more offense during the game, but Nieve Tonna '26 made a season-high eight saves to ensure the Continentals' victory.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOSH MCKEE

**Hamilton's women's golf team placed fourth at the George Phinney classic.**